

THE CLASS OF
2023



THE ONE HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHTH COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 • 9 A.M.

THE GRAND OLE OPRY HOUSE AUDITORIUM
2802 OPRYLAND DRIVE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214

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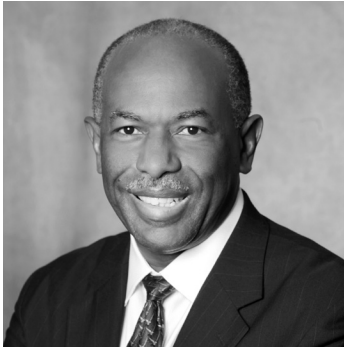
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Meharry Medical College has served the nation's health care needs for 147 years.
This year the College is convening its 148th graduation exercises because it held two Commencement ceremonies in one academic year during World War II.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

JAMES E.K. HILDRETH, PH.D., M.D., PRESIDENT & CEO



Class of 2023—congratulations on this milestone, not just in your academic careers, but in your lives. This day is a day of symbolism. The ceremony, the trappings of regalia, the degree you receive—all of this—is representative of transition. It is both the fruition of a long-standing dream and a new beginning, leaning toward things to come. In some ways, it is all a prayer for the future.

In fact, you are a bridge between those who went before you, laying the groundwork for you and for those who follow you for whom you share responsibility.

Consider these milestones during your time here:

Many of you who are culminating a four-year course here matriculated with the coming cloud of a global pandemic on the horizon—we could see it coming, but we didn't have the measure of it until we were confronted with it the following spring. But you were here as Meharrians when we all buckled down for the storm. As young data science, medical, dental, research and public health students, you saw solutions develop on the fly; you saw health care and public health from the point of view few of your predecessors or successors experienced because you fought COVID-19 at the head of the storm. You helped with the testing centers across Nashville and helped dispense groundbreaking vaccinations. You were a part of history.

You saw the creation of a new school at Meharry—part of the realization that data collection and interpretation is playing an ever-growing part toward the cause of health equity—and the College of Applied Computational Science was born.

And, in large part because of that pandemic, you saw new spotlights directed at public health and health equity and the establishment of a new Global Institute of Public Health with a bright future nurtured by Meharry's place in service to the underserved.

In the course of the pandemic, you saw Meharry's profile rise nationally and internationally. Meharry is part of an effort to eliminate HIV-AIDS from the African continent, seeing massive reductions in the transmission of the disease from mothers to newborns because Meharrians are there.

And yet, we continue the mission to serve the underserved in our own backyard, whether it is through those who served in the Salt Wagon Clinic or as part of not one, but two free Oral Health Day events and a pediatric dental event treating hundreds who otherwise could not have afforded dental care.

This is all part of your world as students here at Meharry, experiences you will carry forward. You are a class unlike any other. I am proud of you all.

Godspeed on your journeys.

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

Meharry Medical College, a United Methodist Church related institution, is the nation's largest private, independent, historically black academic health sciences center whose primary focus is educating health science professionals. Since 1876, Meharry Medical College has been a leading educator of African-American physicians, dentists, biomedical scientists and public health professionals.

Our mission is to improve the health and health care of minority and underserved communities by offering excellent education and training programs in the health sciences, placing special emphasis on providing opportunities to people of color and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, regardless of race or ethnicity; delivering high quality health services and conducting research that fosters the elimination of health disparities.

Meharry Medical College is particularly well known for our uniquely nurturing, highly effective educational programs. We have a growing emphasis on health disparities research and deliver culturally relevant, culturally competent evidence-based health services. Year after year, we make a significant contribution to the diversity of the nation's health professions workforce.

Access to health care for the underserved and underrepresented continues to be a top priority for the nation. An Institute of Medicine report, "Unequal Treatment," found that the sources of disparity in health care are complex. They are rooted in historic and contemporary inequities involving many participants at several levels, including health systems, utilization managers, insurers, health care professionals and patients. The key solution, according to the report, is substantially increasing the number of underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities among the nation's health care workforce.

We are proud that Meharry Medical College graduates are part of this solution. More than 80 percent of our medical and dental graduates practice in underserved communities.

The education of graduate students in the fields of biomedical research and public health continues to be a high priority at Meharry. There is a growing national shortage of African-American science faculty, especially biomedical scientists, at the college level. Meharry is proud of its Ph.D., MSPH and MHS programs that address this national need to educate the next generation of scientists and health care professionals.

The Center for Health Policy at Meharry Medical College is strategically housed here to provide leadership in health policy education, training and research to doctoral, medical, dental and graduate students.

THE 148TH COMMENCEMENT

JAMES E.K. HILDRETH SR., PH.D., M.D., PRESIDENT & CEO PRESIDING

Presentation of Colors

Processional "Triumphal March" from Aida by Giuseppe Verdi

Candidates for degrees
President and speaker
Chair of the Board and other trustees
Members of the platform party
Other administrative officers
Members of the faculty

Academic Marshal **Julie A. Gray, D.D.S. '99, MA, FICD**
Associate Dean for Community Based Collaboration;
Associate Professor, Course Director, Expanded Function Dental Assistant Program

Grand Marshal and Bearier of the Mace **William P. Davis, D.D.S.'92, MSPH '97**

Faculty Marshal **LaMonica Stewart, Ph.D.**

The School Marshals:

School of Applied Computational Sciences **Aize Cao, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor, School of Applied Computational Sciences

School of Graduate Studies **Amos M. Sakwe, Ph.D., MSCI '14**
Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Cancer Biology

School of Dentistry **Joyce Barbour, D.D.S. '97**
Assistant Professor, General Practice Residency Program

School of Medicine **Millard D. Collins, M.D. '01, FAAFP**
Dr. Frank S. Royal Endowed Chair and Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine

Hooding Marshals:

School of Applied Computational Sciences **Nadine Shillingford, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Data Science

School of Graduate Studies **Deok-Soo Son, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Cancer Biology

Kaylon L. Bruner-Tran, Ph.D., MPH
Associate Professor, Division of Public Health Practice

Chandravanu Dash, Ph.D., MSc
Professor, Center for AIDS Health Disparities Research

Christine Lovly, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Allysceæioun Britt, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Cancer Biology, Neuroscience and Pharmacology

School of Dentistry	James Tyus, D.D.S. '78 Chair and Professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry
	James Cade, D.D.S., FACD Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences and Research
	William P. Davis, D.D.S. '92, MSPH '97 Associate Professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry
School of Medicine	LaMonica Stewart, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Professional and Medical Education
	Tiffany Turner, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Professional Development and Medical Education
	Emmanuel Atta-Asaf-Adjei, Ph.D. Professor, Professional Development and Medical Education
Invocation	Reverend Robert Hall Chaplain and Special Advisor to the President
The National Anthem , “The Star Spangled Banner” by Francis Scott Key	Crystal Miller
The Black National Anthem “Lift Every Voice and Sing” by J.W. Johnson and J.R. Johnson	The Meharry Choir
Opening Remarks	James E.K. Hildreth Sr., Ph.D., M.D. President and Chief Executive Officer
Greetings	Nelson L. Adams III, M.D. '78 Chair, Meharry Medical College Board of Trustees
	Marquetta Faulkner, M.D. '81 Chair, Faculty Senate, School of Medicine
Musical Performance “Total Praise” by Richard Smallwood	The Meharry Choir
Introduction of the Speaker	President Hildreth
Commencement Address	David M. Carlisle, M.D., Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees	President Hildreth
Conferral of Degrees and Professional Oaths	
School of Applied Computational Sciences	Fortune S. Mhlanga, Ph.D., Dean
School of Graduate Studies and Research	Merry Lindsey, Ph.D., Dean
School of Dentistry	Cherae M. Farmer-Dixon, D.D.S. '90, MSPH '94, FACD, Dean
School of Medicine	Digna S. Forbes, M.D., Interim Dean
Presentation of Candidates by Schools	
School of Applied Computational Sciences	Aize Cao, Ph.D. Associate Professor, School of Applied Computational Sciences
Oath and Pledge	Dean Mhlanga
School of Graduate Studies	Evangeline Motley Johnson, Ph.D. Senior Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Ph.D. Degree in Biomedical Science	
Master of Public Health (MPH)	
Master of Health Sciences (MHS)	
Oaths and Pledges	Dean Lindsey

School of Dentistry	Sandra G. Harris, D.D.S. '84, FACD Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Dentistry
Dental Oath	Dean Farmer-Dixon
School of Medicine	Monique Forskin-Bennerman, M.D. '01 Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Associate Professor, School of Medicine
Hippocratic Oath	Interim Dean Forbes
The Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association	Ethel Harris, D.D.S., '01 President, Meharry National Alumni Association
Recognition of Certificates in Health Policy and Public Health Awardees	A. Dexter Samuels, Ph.D. Executive Director, Center for Health Policy at Meharry Medical College
Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation	JunKemar Small Spanish Town, Jamaica; Graduating Senior; Emergency Medicine Residency, Duke University Hospital
	Dontal L. Johnson, M.D. '14 Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics
The Meharry Medical College Alma Mater	Ms. Miller
Closing Remarks	President Hildreth
The Benediction	Reverend Hall
The Recessional	"The Prince of Denmark March" by Jeremiah Clarke

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

DAVID M. CARLISLE, M.D., PH.D.



David M. Carlisle, M.D., Ph.D. is presently serving since 2011 as the president and chief executive officer of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine (CDU) and Science in the Watts-Willowbrook area of Los Angeles County, California. Dr. Carlisle is a published author in health policy, quality of care, medical education diversity and elimination of health disparities. A board-certified internal medicine specialist, his clinical work has always revolved around caring for the underserved.

President Carlisle graduated from Wesleyan University, majoring in chemistry. He then earned his medical degree from Brown University, his Master of Public Health and his Ph.D. in Health Services Research from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. He completed a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program fellowship at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in 1990.

Dr. Carlisle has been affiliated with the UCLA Department of Medicine for approximately 31 years, becoming a tenured associate professor in 1998. He is presently a professor of medicine and public health at CDU and an adjunct professor of medicine at UCLA.

President Carlisle served as director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development for 11 years (2000-11) under Governor Gray Davis, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Governor Jerry Brown. Under his leadership, OSHPD released its first-ever health disparities reports, increased scholarship and loan repayment opportunities for health providers committed to practice in underrepresented, under-resourced and underserved communities, and successfully administered hospital seismic safety as well as health facility loan insurance programs.

In 2007, Dr. Carlisle became a Senior Fellow at UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs and served as a member of the Advisory Council of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health from 2017-22. In 2018 he was appointed as a member of the California Future Health Workforce Commission. In 2018, he was appointed to the Board of Trustees for the California Health Care Foundation and served as a council member of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Economic Advisory Council. He is also a founding member of the BioScienceLA Board.

Dr. Carlisle has lived in Los Angeles and Sacramento for almost 40 years. He is married to Dr. Sylvia Carlisle and together they have two children, David and Aimee, both defense attorneys.

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic regalia worn today originated in the universities of the Middle Ages, when a warm gown and hood were useful for scholars and clerics in unheated buildings. The distinctive gown served to set the student apart from his fellow citizens, hence the perennial controversy between “town and gown.”

Until after the Civil War, students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. They varied in design until the American Intercollegiate Commission standardized them in 1984. At that time, it was decided that all robes would be black: bachelor’s gowns were made of worsted stuff with pointed sleeves; master’s gowns were of silk with long closed sleeves and doctor’s gowns were of silk with longer sleeves, faced with black velvet from hem to neck and back. Scholars also wore three velvet bands around each sleeve above the elbow.

Hoods are made of the same materials as the gowns, the length varying on the degree. Only the lining of the hood indicates the university by its colors. The border of the hood indicates the academic discipline in which the degree is earned. Throughout the United States, there has been no change in the standard colors that represent the disciplines. The color facing the hood, whether it is black or colored, indicates the following: brown: architecture and the fine arts; citron yellow: social work; dark blue: philosophy; kelly green: medicine; lemon yellow: library service; light blue: education; light brown: business; lilac: dentistry; olive green: pharmacy; orange: engineering; peacock blue: international affairs; pink: music; purple: law; scarlet: theology; white: arts and letters; crimson: journalism and golden yellow: science.

THE SYMBOLS OF CEREMONY

THE SEAL

Seals have been part of university ceremony since the Middle Ages. A college or university seal is one of its more important symbols of office, the legal mark of the school's governing body. Used to authenticate official documents such as diplomas and legal records, the seal is different from the school logo, with strict rules associated with its application—only certain institutional ceremonies, documents and events allow the use of the seal.

With gold braid at its perimeter, the seal of Meharry Medical College contains three smaller escutcheons surrounding an inverted delta at center representing the institution's three schools of study: (clockwise from the top) the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry and the School of Graduate Studies and Research. Emblazoned with the College's motto, "Worship of God Through Service to Mankind," the seal exhibits the institution's founding year, 1876.

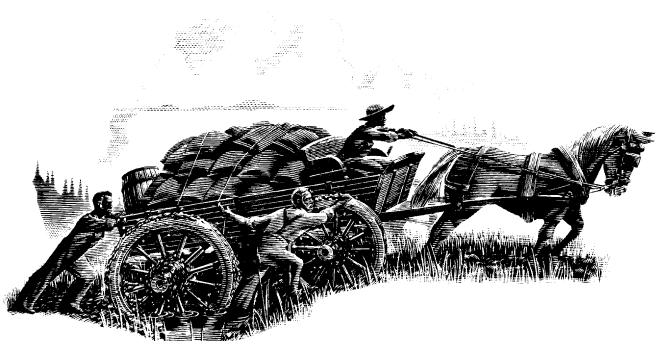
THE MACE

Academic maces—formidable staffs of wood, metal and gems—are descended from war clubs carried in medieval times by the bodyguards of civil officers. Eventually carried as symbols of royal authority, earliest maces were carried by sergeants-at-arms in England in the early 12th century. The academic mace is used only on formal occasions when participants are in full regalia and symbolizes the authority invested in the president by the school's governing body. The mace is an integral part of convocation and commencement processions and exercises as well as the inauguration of a new president.

THE MEDALLION

The presidential medallion is the official insignia of Meharry Medical College. It is worn by the president during academic ceremonies. The presidential medallion depicts the official seal of the college in bronze. Links of the chain are engraved with the names of Meharry's past presidents and their terms of office, symbolizing the continuity of responsibility in the office.

AN ACT OF KINDNESS



In the 1820s, 16-year-old Samuel Meharry was hauling a load of salt through the Kentucky wilderness when his wagon slid off the road into a muddy ditch. With rain and nightfall limiting his options, Samuel searched for help.

Peering through the darkness, he saw a modest cabin that was home to a black family recently

freed from slavery. Ignoring risks involved in responding to a stranger's knock on the door, the family—still vulnerable to slave hunters paid to return freedmen to bondage—gave Samuel food and shelter for the night.

At morning's light, they helped the young visitor raise his wagon from the mud and Samuel continued on his way. The black family's act of kindness touched young Samuel so deeply that he vowed to repay it.

"I have no money now," he said as he departed, "but when I am able, I shall do something for your race."

Tragically, history never recorded the name of the courageous black family, and perhaps their identity even receded in the mind of Samuel as he grew prosperous in the years that followed.

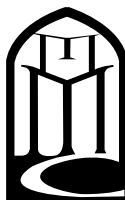
Even so, 40 years later, as the Civil War ended and black citizens began their long struggle for rights guaranteed by the Constitution, Samuel seized an opportunity to redeem his vow.

When leading Methodist clergymen and laymen organized the Freedmen's Aid Society in August 1866, to "elevate former slaves, intellectually and morally," Samuel acted. He and his four brothers—Alexander, David, Hugh and Jesse—pledged their support to Central Tennessee College's emerging medical education program.

With \$30,000 in cash and real property, the Meharry brothers repaid the black family's "Act of Kindness" with one of their own. In 1876, they funded the College's Medical Department which evolved over time into what we now know as Meharry Medical College.

Today, the contemporary Salt Wagon image symbolizes those several acts of kindness and philanthropy and countless others performed by the College's loyal supporters.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES



*All names, degrees, theses and dissertation titles were submitted and approved by the dean for each school
and were confirmed to be accurate for publication in the 2023 Commencement Program.*

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL DATA SCIENCE

Wajahah Hasan Sanders

Nashville, Tennessee

A.S., 2001, Tennessee State

University

B.S., 2002, Tennessee State

University

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DATA SCIENCE

Brittany B. City

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2014, Xavier University of

Louisiana

Shara D. Taylor

Memphis, Tennessee

B.B.A., 2005, Howard University

M.C.P., 2010, The University of

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

THE DATA SCIENCE OATH



I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those data scientists in whose steps I walk and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of society, all measures which are required, avoiding those twin traps of data-fishing and analytic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to data science as well as science, and that consistency, candor and compassion should outweigh the algorithm's precision or the interventionist's influence.

I will not be ashamed to say, "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for solving a problem.

I will respect the privacy of my data subjects, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know, so I will tread with care in matters of privacy and security. If it is given to me to save life with my analyses, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to do harm and this responsibility must be faced with humbleness and awareness of my own limitations.

I will remember that my data are not just numbers without meaning or context, but represent real people and situations and that my work may lead to unintended societal consequences, such as inequality, poverty and disparities due to algorithmic bias.

My responsibility must consider potential consequences of my extraction of meaning from data and ensure my analyses help make better decisions. I will do personalization where appropriate, but I will always look for a path to fair treatment and non-discrimination.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those who need help and those who don't.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy vitality and virtuosity, respected for my contributions and remembered for my leadership thereafter. May I always act to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of helping those who seek my help.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Malcolm Edwards

International Falls, Minnesota

B.S., 2017, Morehouse College

Dissertation Title: "Moral Decision-Making after Moderate-Severe Traumatic Brain Injury"

Program: Neuroscience

Preceptor: Melissa Duff, Ph.D.

Carla Gibbs

Miami, Florida

B.S., 2015, Tennessee State University

Dissertation Title: "The Role of CXCL14 in Triple Negative Breast Cancer Immune Microenvironment"

Program: Biochemistry and Cancer Biology

Preceptor: Deok-Soo Son, Ph.D.

Fidel Soto Gonzalez

San Sebastian, Puerto Rico

B.S., 2015, Puerto Rico; University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla

Dissertation Title: "A Novel Connection between Trypanosoma Brucei Mitochondrial Proteins TBTIM17 and TBTRAP1 is Discovered Using Biotinylation Identification (BIOID)"

Program: Microbiology and Immunology

Preceptor: Minu Chaudhuri, Ph.D.

James Mungin

Austell, Georgia

B.S., 2013, Tuskegee University

Dissertation Title: "Elucidating the Molecular Mechanism of Zika Virus Pathogenesis in Human Vaginal Epithelial Cells"

Program: Microbiology and Immunology

Preceptor: Bindong Liu, Ph.D.

Jelonia Tasha Rumph

Orlando, Florida

B.S., 2018, Florida Memorial University

Dissertation Title: "A Paternal Fish Oil Diet Preconception Reduces the Risk of Toxicant Driven Necrotizing Enterocolitis and Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia in Neonatal Mice"

Program: Microbiology and Immunology

Preceptor: Kaylon Bruner-Tran, Ph.D.

Nicklas Ezra Sapp

Hampton, Virginia

B.S., 2013, Norfolk State University

Dissertation Title: "Nucleosome Structure Characteristics of Open Chromatin Enhances HIV-1 Integration"

Program: Biochemistry and Cancer Biology

Preceptor: Chandranu Dash, Ph.D.

Portia L. Thomas

Doerun, Georgia

B.S., 2012, Erskine College

B.A., 2012, Erskine College

Dissertation Title: "Evaluating the Immune Microenvironment in Small Cell Lung Cancer Using Multi-Analytical Platforms"

Program: Microbiology and Immunology

Preceptor: Christine M. Lovly, M.D., Ph.D.

A BIOMEDICAL RESEARCHER'S PLEDGE



I accept this opportunity to follow the difficult and rewarding path of biomedical science. I will endeavor to honor all those who have contributed to this opportunity by always working to the utmost of my abilities and by increasing those abilities when possible.

I pledge to use my energy, intellect and education to enhance the lives of all humans, understanding that often the greatest strides are made through efforts to assist the dispossessed and underprivileged in our world.

I will carefully consider and remain mindful of the ethical implications of my work.

I will never use my gifts and skills to intentionally harm any individual, group or the planetary environment.

In planning and carrying out my work, I will treat this planet and all its life forms with honor and respect.

I will honor and respect the efforts of my teachers, taking great care to always give credit where credit is due and always humbly understanding that all I see, I see by standing on the shoulders of the many scientists who have gone before me.

I also will honor and respect my students and all who rely on that which I have learned, endeavoring to truthfully and openly disclose all my methods, findings and conclusions.

So long as I adhere to this pledge, may I have continued success in the field of biomedical science.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Stefan Bailey

Birmingham, Alabama

B.S., 2016, Stillman College

Brianna S. Davis

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2019, University of Tennessee

Prince C. Ejindu

Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria

M.B.B.S., 2009, College of Health
Sciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe
University

Blare A. Gerido

Richmond, Virginia

B.A., 2021, University of Tennessee
at Martin

Maya Alyssa Johnson

Tuskegee, Alabama

B.S., 2020, Tuskegee University

Aisha Matthew Kavumkal

Valrico, Florida

A.A., 2009, Hillsborough
Community College

M.D., 2015, American University of
Antigua

Irene Lazarus

Dallas-Forth Worth, Texas

B.S., 2009, University of Texas at
Arlington

M.D., 2014, University of Texas at
Southwestern Medical Center,
Dallas

Brittani Danielle Littleton

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2021, Middle Tennessee
State University

Aleigha Mason

Columbus, Ohio

B.S., 2021, Miami University of
Ohio

Malakai Miller

Elizabeth, New Jersey

B.S., 2018, Morehouse College

Taylor Nicole Perry

Jackson, Tennessee

B.S., 2020, The University of
Tennessee at Chattanooga

Meagan Roberts

Antioch, Tennessee

B.S., 2021, Middle Tennessee
State University

Lakshmanasamy Somasundaram

Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu, India

M.B.B.S., 1999, Raja Muthiah
Medical College, Chidambaram,
India

Mya J. Williams

Peoria, Illinois

B.A., 2021, Tennessee State
University

Shedrick Wright II

Franklin, Tennessee

B.S., 2019, Tuskegee University

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Deshawn D. Adewole

Antioch, Tennessee

B.S., 2017, Tennessee State
University

Dylan Allison

Beaumont, Texas

B.S., 2020, Baylor University

Ryan Alicia Armant

Augusta, Georgia

B.S., 2021, Howard University

Aishat Similoluwa Awe

Pembroke Pines, Florida

B.S., 2020, University of Central
Florida

Akindele Bankole

Memphis, Tennessee

B.A., 2017, Rhodes College

Merna K. Bassally

Alexandria, Egypt

B.S., 2021, Lipscomb University

Kelsey Alexanderia Bean

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2021, The University of
Memphis

Jayla M. Berry

Yazoo City, Mississippi

B.S., 2019, Tougaloo College
M.S.P.H., 2022, Meharry Medical
College

Dia Tseday Bowden

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2017, Howard University

Denia Lashay Breaux

San Francisco, California

B.S., 2022, Howard University

Kwinci Victoria-Hunter Britt

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2021, Middle Tennessee
State University

Morgan Ra'Mil Britton

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2022, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Natasha S. Browder

East Chicago, Indiana

B.S., 2015, Agnes Scott College

Shekinah S. Bryant

Coral Springs, Florida

A.A., 2018, Valencia State College
B.S., 2021, University of Central
Florida

Taylor Alexis Burnett

Owings, Maryland

B.S., 2019, Hampton University

Anesha M. Byrd

Spartanburg, South Carolina

B.S., 2021, Lander University

Zeihkia Ondrea Byrd

Maumelle, Arkansas

B.S., 2021, Hendrix College

Malaya Aviona Carlo

Atlanta, Georgia

B.S., 2021, Georgia State University

Chelsea Brianna Carter

Huntsville, Alabama

B.A., 2020, University of
Mississippi

Kaylyn Lorraine Chandler

Poplar Grove, Arkansas

A.S., 2020, Arkansas State
University
B.S., 2022, Arkansas State
University

Jasmine Christina Clark

Scottdale, Georgia

B.A., 2017, Mercer University
B.S., 2020, Georgia State
University

Alexandria M. Coleman

McKinney, Texas

B.S., 2021, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Dhaneen Dimitra Comeau

Miami, Florida

B.A., 2017, University of Central
Florida

Tiffany Cooper

Atlanta, Georgia

B.A., 2017, Oakwood University

Kevin Larone Crumpton Jr.

Pine Bluff, Arkansas

B.S., 2022, University of Arkansas
at Pine Bluff

Troy Arttison Cunningham

Spartanburg, South Carolina

B.A., 2016, Hampton University
M.S.P.H., 2022, Meharry Medical
College

De'Shaun Lamar Dail

Clarksville, Tennessee

B.A., 2021, Vanderbilt University

Devere Davauni Darkins*Snellville, Georgia*

B.S., 2022, Xavier University of
Louisiana

April Nicole Davis*Atlanta, Georgia*

B.S., 2020, University of Georgia

Crystal Davis*West Helena, Arkansas*

B.S., 2017, Arkansas State University

Sydelle Adama Davis*Beltsville, Maryland*

B.S., 2022, Howard University

Justin Alexander Duncan*Wake Forest, North Carolina*

B.S., 2022, The University of North
Carolina at Charlotte

Myeshia Edgerton*Los Angeles, California*

B.S., 1997, University of Southern
California

Julie Emmanuel*Sunrise, Florida*

B.S., 2016, University of Central
Florida

Shanika Nadéje Gabriella**Francis***Tampa, Florida*

B.S., 2018, University of South
Florida

Tamera Roshee Frierson*Murfreesboro, Tennessee*

B.S., 2019, University of Memphis

Youstina Gabra*Nashville, Tennessee*

B.S., 2021, Belmont University

Donovan Daquan Gilmore*Greensboro, North Carolina*

B.S., 2019, University of North
Carolina Asheville

Lauren N. Gordon*Olympia Fields, Illinois*

B.A., 2019, University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign
M.S., 2020, Barry University

Ashlyn L. Gray*Columbia, South Carolina*

B.S., 2022, Spelman College

Makenzie Channel Gray*Frisco, Texas*

B.S., 2019, The University of
Oklahoma

Ashanti A. Greene*Atlanta, Georgia*

B.S., 2020, Clark Atlanta University

Sydney Dominique Greene*Durham, North Carolina*

B.S., 2021, Alabama A&M
University

Sheridan Paige Guidry*Houston, Texas*

B.S., 2020, Loyola University New
Orleans

Sydnei Nicollette Hall*Opelousas, Louisiana*

B.S., 2018, Louisiana State
University

Tyrone Hill*Miami Gardens, Florida*

B.S., 2022, Florida A&M University

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PUBLIC HEALTH PLEDGE



I pledge to do all within my power to safeguard human and environmental health through prevention, protection, promotion and educational efforts. I will accept the responsibility to use my talents, training and professional experience to instill public trust in all my public health endeavors. It is my personal commitment to serve my community with integrity and pride. As a member of the public health community, I recognize the unique responsibilities associated with this role. I commit myself to the high standards of professionalism and ethical conduct required to achieve community health and to ensuring that the basic resources and conditions necessary for health are accessible to all members of the community.

HEALTH SCIENCES PLEDGE

As I embark on my career, now an alumnus of the Master of Health Sciences, I pledge that I will represent my scientific profession honorably by conducting myself and my professional endeavors in a manner that is always above reproach.

I will incorporate the ethical and moral principles that constitute integrity in all that I do and faithfully ensure that the results of my professional activities ultimately benefit our world.

With this affirmation, I will acknowledge and honor the contributions of those who have preceded me, while seeking truth and the advancement of knowledge in all my actions.

I will strive to show compassion, embrace diversity and above all, uphold excellence that I should become a worthy role model deserving of respect by all.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

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DENTAL OATH



I, realizing the privileges and opportunity that have been given to me, my study and the arts of dentistry, and appreciating the significance of the dental degree, which has been conferred upon me, do hereby willingly pledge:

That I will diligently uphold the dignity, honor and objective of the dental profession and, to the best of my ability, will contribute to its prestige, proficiency and progress;

That I solemnly accept my responsibility to the patient, to give him the best of my knowledge and skill and to maintain an impeccable relationship with him that will warrant his trust and confidence;

That I will faithfully observe the Principles of Ethics set forth by the profession; and

That I will lend my influences and support to dental education, to organized dentistry and to all segments of the profession, which contribute to the fulfillment of this purpose.

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B.S., 2016, Spelman College
M.S., 2017, Morehouse School of
Medicine

Ryan Andrew Cowan*Kennett Square, Pennsylvania*

B.S., 2017, The Pennsylvania State
University

Christopher Creighton*New Orleans, Louisiana*

B.S., 2019, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Montrell Unique Curvey*Houston, Texas*

B.S., 2017, Xavier University of
Louisiana
M.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College

Brittney Nnedimma Ezendu Dike*Edmond, Oklahoma*

B.A., 2016, The University of
Oklahoma

Taylor Dykes*Knoxville, Tennessee*

B.A., 2017, University of Tennessee

Micah Gabriel Ernst*Detroit, Michigan*

B.S., 2015, Howard University
M.P.H., 2017, Emory University,
Rollins School of Public Health

Aliah L. Fonteh*Quartz Hill, California*

B.S., 2017, Liberty University
M.S., 2019, Liberty University

Jhonsley Frederic*Naples, Florida*

B.S., 2015, Florida International
University
M.P.H., 2018, Florida International
University

Mika V. Galiher*Honolulu, Hawaii*

B.A., 2015, Loyola Marymount
University

Yomiyou Geleta*Beltsville, Maryland*

B.S., 2018, Georgetown University

Timothy Lamont Gibbs*Fruit Heights, Utah*

B.A., 2015, Weber State University
M.S., 2017, Touro University

Daniel Nedjati Gilani*Reading, England*

B.S., 2016, Belmont University

Chastity Renee Greene*Houston, Texas*

B.S., 2015, Texas Southern University
M.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College

Andrew E. Grush*Mission Viejo, California*

B.S., 2014, California State
University, Chico

Gorav Gupta*Knoxville, Tennessee*

B.S., 2019, University of Tennessee

Robert Glenn Hammond II*Dallas, Texas*

B.S., 2008, Oakwood University
Ph.D., 2018, University of Alabama
at Birmingham

Oyindayo Modupe-Ajoke Hassan*Peachtree City, Georgia*

B.S., 2017, Xavier University of
Louisiana
B.S.E., 2017, Tulane University
M.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College

Jessica Lei Hawkins*Beaumont, Texas*

B.S., 2017, Prairie View A&M
University

Kelsey Deanna Henderson*Memphis, Tennessee*

B.S., 2018, University of Tennessee

Terry Allen Henry Jr.*Omaha, Nebraska*

B.S., 2019, Oakwood University

Dorian Shani Hill*Jackson, Mississippi*

B.S., 2019, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Akilah British Hyrams*Waxhaw, North Carolina*

B.S., 2016, Hampton University

Mirjana Grace Ivanic*Mountain View, California*

B.A., 2013, University of California
Berkeley

Joshua Ivare*Brampton, Ontario*

B.Sc., 2017, University of Ottawa

M.Sc., 2020, University of Ottawa

Nasir Tyree Jackson*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

B.S., 2014, Immaculata University

M.S., 2016, Drexel University

College of Nursing and Health
ProfessionsM.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College**Genesis Ajah James***Montgomery, Alabama*

B.A., 2019, Fisk University

Erika Scott Johnson*Houston, Texas*B.S., 2005, Texas Southern
University

M.S., 2016, University of Colorado

Oyinloye Austine Jose*Akure, Nigeria*A.S., 2015, Los Angeles Southwest
CollegeB.A., 2018, University of California,
Los Angeles**Benson Joseph***Lake Worth, Florida*

B.S., 2014, University of Florida

Kardeem Sony Joseph*Brooklyn, New York*B.S., 2019, University of West
Georgia**Muhammad Saad Khan***Toronto, Ontario*

B.Sc., 2016, University of Toronto

M.Sc., 2019, University of Toronto

M.P.H., 2019, University of
Hertfordshire**Idris O. Kosoko***Nashville, Tennessee*

B.S., 2018, Tennessee State

University

M.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College**Jonathan Kwateng***Roswell, Georgia*

B.S., 2019, University of Georgia

Breeann Josephine Lansiquot*Beltsville, Maryland*

B.S., 2019, Oakwood University

Reethika Maddineni*Sandy Spring, Maryland*

B.S., 2018, University of Maryland

B.A., 2018, University of Maryland

Kristin Charles Malone*Memphis, Tennessee*B.S., 2015, University of Tennessee
at MartinM.P.H., 2017, The University of
Memphis**Maylander Menard***North Miami, Florida*

B.S., 2016, University of Florida

M.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College**Madison DeLane Monroe***Chattanooga, Tennessee*B.S., 2017, Mississippi State
University**Maurice Dain Morgan***Orlando, Florida*

A.A., 2015, Valencia College

B.S., 2016, University of South
Florida**Jamal E. Moss***Charlotte, North Carolina*

A.S., 2012, Central Piedmont

Community College

B.S., 2015, North Carolina State
University

M.A., 2018, Duke University

Ajia Janae Murphy*Union City, California*B.S., 2016, University of California,
Los AngelesM.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College**Andrew Nakla***Huntington Beach, California*B.S., 2017, University of California,
Riverside**Morgan L. O'Neal***Chattanooga, Tennessee*

B.A., 2013, Fisk University

Kristian U. Onwuharonye*Houston, Texas*

B.S., 2016, Texas A&M University

M.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College**Siddharth A. Patel***Pineville, Missouri*

B.S., 2018, University of Arkansas

Chezlyn Denise Patton*San Francisco, California*

B.S., 2016, Spelman College

M.S., 2017, Georgetown University

Geryn Taylor Hasty Peggins*Cedar Hill, Texas*B.S., 2016, Xavier University of
LouisianaM.H.S., 2019, Meharry Medical
College

Chelsie Elizabeth Ann Poindexter*Richmond, Virginia*

B.S., 2018, Spelman College

M.S., 2019, Morehouse School of
Medicine**Zahria Alanis Radford***Houston, Texas*

B.S., 2019, Tuskegee University

Allison Bernard Randolph V*New Orleans, Louisiana*

B.A., 2013, Harvard University

M.B.A., 2023, Vanderbilt University
Owen Graduate School of
Management**Jennifer G. Reskallah***Fairfax, Virginia*

B.S., 2017, Virginia Tech

Kacy S. Roberson*Soddy Daisy, Tennessee*

B.A., 2018, University of Tennessee

B.S., 2018, University of Tennessee

Leilani Roberson*Seattle, Washington*B.A., 2016, Loyola Marymount
University**Mike Romain***Miami, Florida*B.S., 2006, University of South
FloridaM.S., 2010, Nova Southeastern
University**Shantal Patricia Salandy***Westbury, New York*

B.A., 2013, Bryn Mawr College

Myla A. Sapp*Silver Spring, Maryland*

B.S., 2016, University of Richmond

M.H.S., 2018, Meharry Medical
College**Nicholas Michael Sbravati***Kennesaw, Georgia*B.S., 2019, Kennesaw State
University**Mollie Patricia Sewell***High Point, North Carolina*B.S., 2017, North Carolina A&T
State University**Mary Skrabut***Franklin, Tennessee*

B.S., 2016, Lipscomb University

M.S., 2017, Lipscomb University

Kemar Norman Small*Spanish Town, Jamaica*B.S., 2015, State University of New
York at Albany**Stephanie Smith***Miami, Florida*

B.S., 2015, Florida State University

Jeffery Shannon Stokes, Jr.*Memphis, Tennessee*B.S., 2018, The University of
Memphis**Walberto Edgardo Tejada****Menjivar***Matthews, North Carolina*

B.S., 2016, Wingate University

Laurie A. Temiz*Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey*B.A., 2016, Rutgers, The State
University of New Jersey**Kaelan Gabrielle Temple***Houston, Texas*B.S., 2018, Xavier University of
Louisiana**Portia LaLiah Thomas***Doerun, Georgia*

B.S., 2012, Erskine College

B.A., 2012, Erskine College

Trevor Kwaku Obeng Thompson*Arlington, Texas*

B.S., 2017, Baylor University

Nicholas Paolo Valle*Princeton, New Jersey*B.S., 2016, College of William and
Mary**Joseph R. Vanterpool***Statesboro, Georgia*

B.S., 2019, University of Georgia

B.A., 2019, University of Georgia

Rebekah Emily Loretta Yearwood*Powder Springs, Georgia*B.S., 2018, Georgia State
University**Diborah Mengistu Yimer***Harar, Ethiopia*

B.S., 2016, Denison University

Ilija Zecevic*Nashville, Tennessee*B.S., 2019, Middle Tennessee
State University

HIPPOCRATIC OATH

MODERN VERSION



I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment this covenant:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures that are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science and that warmth, sympathy and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call on my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.

I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially, must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

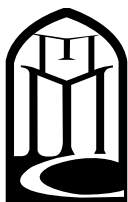
I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart or a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body, as well as the infirmed.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARDS



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DATA SCIENCE

The following MS candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Shara D. Taylor

High Honors

Brittany B. City

The student with the highest Grade Point Average in the MS Data Science Program

Shara D. Taylor

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL DATA SCIENCE

The following MS candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Wajehah Sanders

The student with the highest Grade Point Average in the MS Biomedical Data Science Program

Wajehah Sanders

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM

The following Ph.D. candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Fidel Soto Gonzalez
Jelonia Tasha Rumph

High Honors

Nicklas Ezra Sapp

Honors

James Mungin

The following Ph.D. candidates qualify for graduation with membership on the Dean's List

Fidel Soto Gonzalez
James Mungin
Jelonia Tasha Rumph
Nicklas Ezra Sapp

The Beyond Boundaries Award

This honor is bestowed annually to leaders for their scholastic achievements and community service involvement.

Recipient: Portia Thomas

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

The following MPH candidates qualify for graduation with membership on the Dean's List

Highest Honors

Blare A. Gerido
Brittani Danielle Littleton
Taylor Nicole Perry

High Honors

Aleigha Mason
Malakai Miller
Meagan Roberts
Shedrick Wright, II

Honors

Brianna S. Davis
Maya Alyssa Johnson
Mya J. Williams

The Beyond Boundaries Award

This honor is bestowed annually to leaders for their scholastic achievements and community service involvement.

Recipient: Meagan Roberts

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAM

The following MHS candidates qualify for graduation with membership on the Dean's List

Highest Honors

Dylan Allison
Aishat Similoluwa Awe
Kelsey Alexanderia Bean
Kwinci Victoria-Hunter Britt
Chelsea Brianna Carter
Kaylyn Lorraine Chandler
Alexandria M. Coleman
Kevin Larone Crumpton Jr.
De'Shaun Lamar Dail
Devere Davauni Darkins

Justin Alexander Duncan
Julie Emmanuel
Donovan Daquan Gilmore
Lauren N. Gordon
Makenzie Channel Gray
Edward J. Hughes
Jeiel Temitope-Osayamen Iyawe
Alexis Iyana Jackson
Nijaiha Deshay Jackson
Etana Aulissa Johnson

Keyaunte D. Jones
Amonica Cheyenne Kirkland
Julian Bernard Larosiliere
Jasmine Aaliyah Nichols
Chandler Opara
Aakash Sunder
Kourtney Aimee Tate
Lark Naiema Taylor
BriTicea Orianna White
Frank Lambert Wright

High Honors

Merna K. Bassally
Dia Tseday Bowden
Denia Lashay Breaux
Morgan Ra'Mil Britton
Shekinah S. Bryant
Anesha M. Byrd
Zeihkia Ondrea Byrd
Malaya Aviona Carlo
Tiffany Cooper

April Nicole Davis
Sydelle Adama Davis
Shanika Nadéje Gabriella Francis
Tamera Roshee Frierson
Sydney Dominique Greene
Carmilya Renia Jackson
Deranique Monet Jones
Yahnae Latiece Jones
Pauline Waithira Muturi

Crystal Ogechi Nwokoro
Sonica Ugochinyerem Onyewuenyi
Abena Prempeh
Jasmine Alexis Sistrunk
Kayla Mary-Karon Smith
LaKisha N. Smith
Lauren Michele Waller
Marquita D. Wilkerson
Courtney Monique Wyatt

Honors

Ryan Alicia Armant
Jayla M. Berry
Natasha S. Browder
Jasmine Christina Clark
Myeshia Edgerton
Youstina Gabra
Ashlyn L. Gray

Sydnei Nicolette Hall
Tyrone Hill
Brelynn Donyaé Hunt
Meaghen Laurence Jones
Tylar T. Lewis
Daniel Michael Million
Savannah Eiriona Rumley

Drucilla Marie Self
Zoie A. Smith
Kweisi Stanley
David Hakeem Thomas
Jordynne Nicole Tucker

The Beyond Boundaries Award

This honor is bestowed annually to leaders for their scholastic achievements and community service involvement.

Recipient: Alexis Jackson

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY PROGRAM

The National Dean's List recognizes the positive academic achievements of qualified students and serves as an additional incentive for all students. Students nominated must have achieved Dean's List honors or comparable academic accomplishment.

The following candidates qualify for graduation with recognition on the National Dean's List for 2023 who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Treasure J. Brown	Morgan Josey	Gamaelle T. Tellus
Issa E. Bryant	Taylor D. King	Nelthie Ulysse
Oscar E. Carter	Justin K. Mack	Ashley M. White
Christopher J. Coke	Adem G. Mahmud	Cordaryl Whitehead
Yemesrach C. Demissie	Fransisca C. Meralus	Joshua D. Wiggins
Kelcie B. Downer	Makayla L. Myles	Shanelia L. Williams
Rontae Graham	Cyvanie A. Ramkelawan	Khori -Ann Willis
Deirdre Hillard	Laury H. Rousseau	Tiara Wynn
Adrienne E. Hoffman	Areon Smith	
Rachel B. Jackson	Herbert M. Spann	

The Dean's List for 2023 recognizes the positive academic achievements of qualified students who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Treasure J. Brown	Morgan Josey	Gamaelle T. Tellus
Issa E. Bryant	Taylor D. King	Nelthie Ulysse
Oscar E. Carter	Justin K. Mack	Ashley M. White
Christopher J. Coke	Adem G. Mahmud	Cordaryl Whitehead
Yemesrach C. Demissie	Fransisca C. Meralus	Joshua D. Wiggins
Kelcie B. Downer	Makayla L. Myles	Shanelia L. Williams
Rontae Graham	Cyvanie A. Ramkelawan	Khori-Ann Willis
Deirdre Hillard	Laury H. Rousseau	Tiara Wynn
Adrienne E. Hoffman	Areon Smith	
Rachel B. Jackson	Herbert M. Spann	

The American College of Dentists Student Award

This award is presented to a senior dental student that demonstrates leadership and outstanding scholastic performance.

Recipient: Herbert Spann

The Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

This award is presented to a student who exemplifies outstanding achievement in Operative Dentistry.

Recipient: Gamaelle Tellus

The American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award

This award recognizes a senior who has outstanding achievements, both academically and clinically, in Implant Dentistry.

Recipient: Selome Abera

The Academy of Osseointegration (AO)

This award is presented to an outstanding senior dental student in Implant Dentistry. The Academy is committed to supporting and expanding students' interests, education, research and experiences in dental implants.

Recipient: Ashley White

The American Academy of Oral Medicine Certificate of Merit Award

This award is presented to the graduating senior who demonstrated the highest proficiency in the clinical management of medically complex patients, the diagnosis and non-surgical management of medically related conditions of the oral and maxillofacial regions, academic achievement and interest in the discipline of oral medicine.

Recipient: Kelcie Downer

The American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Achievement Award

This award recognizes the graduating senior who demonstrated exemplary academic achievement and aptitude in oral pathology.

Recipient: Nelthie Ulysse

The American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

This award is presented to a senior dental student who demonstrates exceptional interest in the development of the Oro-Facial Complex.

Recipient: Cordaryl Whitehead

The American Academy of Orthodontics

This award is presented to a senior dental student who demonstrates exceptional interest in the development of the Oro-Facial Complex.

Recipient: Adrienne Hoffman

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

This award is presented to a senior dental student who shows the most promise in pediatric dentistry.

Recipient: Larimar Gonzalez

The American Academy of Periodontology

This award is presented to a graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in Periodontics.

Recipient: Fransisca Meralus

The American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has demonstrated the most clinical proficiency and greatest interest in esthetic dentistry.

Recipient: Makayla Myles

The American Association of Endodontics Student Achievement Award

This award is presented to a senior who demonstrated the highest level of academic and clinical achievement related to Endodontics.

Recipient: Cordaryl Whitehead

The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Achievement Award

This award recognizes a senior dental student with high academic standing for outstanding performance in undergraduate study and clinical training in the area of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Anesthesiology.

Recipient: Khorri Ann-Willis

The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Dental Implant Award

The AAOMS provides an annual award to recognize a dental senior student with high academic standing and outstanding performance in undergraduate study and clinical training in the area of implant placement.

Recipient: Selome Abera

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award

This award recognizes a deserving senior dental student for high achievement in community dentistry and dental public health.

Recipient: Cordaryl Whitehead

The Brian D. Stone Award

This award is presented to an outstanding senior dental student at each participating accredited U.S. dental school. Recipients embody the mission of Dental Lifeline Network by demonstrating exceptional volunteer service or care for patients with special needs.

Recipient: Aparecio Peggins

The Dentsply Sirona Merit Award in Removable Prosthodontics

This award is presented by Dentsply International/Trubyte Division to an outstanding senior dental student who has demonstrated excellence in removable prosthodontics.

Recipient: Yemesrach Demissie

Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society

The students selected from the top 12 percent of the class who ranked highest in scholarship for the entire period they were enrolled in dental school.

Recipients:

Kelcie B. Downer

Adem G. Mahmud

Tiara Wynn

Rachel B. Jackson

Areon Smith

Taylor D. King

Shanelia L. Williams

The AAWD Eleanor J. Bushee Award

This award honors a female senior dental student who has achieved academic excellence and has demonstrated outstanding leadership and who is enthusiastic in her career in dentistry and in her life as a colleague, friend, and mentor.

Recipient: CyVanie Ramkelawan

The American College of Prosthodontics Award

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has demonstrated proficiency in the field of Prosthodontics.

Recipient: Selome Abera

The Brasseler USA Award of Excellence

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has shown outstanding performance in Restorative Dentistry.

Recipient: Christopher King

The Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership Award

This award is presented to the dental student who participated in leadership activities, is an advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion, is a champion for access to oral health care for underserved and disadvantaged populations and is community service-oriented.

Recipient: Aparecio Peggins

The International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award

This award is presented to the dental student who has maintained a recognized scholarly pursuit of dentistry and has been an outstanding student who, in the eyes of the faculty, will contribute to the profession.

Recipient: Adrienne Hoffman

The International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

This award is presented to the dental student who has maintained a recognized scholarly pursuit of dentistry. An altruistic attitude for the underserved and motivates others by serving as an active leader who is also an outstanding student and leader and who, in the eyes of the faculty, will contribute to the profession.

Recipient: Rachel Jackson

The International Congress of Oral Implantologist

This award is presented to a senior dental student with the greatest interest in and commitment to oral implantology/implant dentistry.

Recipient: Issa Bryant

The Quintessence Publishing Company Award for Research Achievement

This award recognizes the graduating student who demonstrated outstanding achievement in dental research.

Recipient: Christopher Coke

The Quintessence Publishing Company Award in Restorative Dentistry

This award is presented to the graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in Restorative Dentistry.

Recipient: Alci Rodriguez

The Quintessence Publishing Company Award in Periodontics

This award is presented to the graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in Periodontics.

Recipient: Gamaelle Tellus

Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics

This award is presented to the dental student that excels in restorative prosthodontics.

Recipient: Aparecio Peggins

The Byron Robinson Educational Foundation Award

This award is presented to one or more students in the graduating class who have demonstrated an interest in the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, participated in an externship or other concentrated sessions in the specialty and had ranking grades in the combined courses in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Recipients: Rachel Jackson

The Barbara Sias-Chinn, D.D.S. '73 Educational Transition Award

This award is presented to a student who has achieved academic excellence during his/her tenure. The award will be used to assist with transitioning to the professional workplace environment.

Recipient: Shanelia Williams

The Horace Wells Senior Student Award Sponsored by the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology

This award is presented to the graduating senior who demonstrated outstanding achievement in Anesthesiology.

Recipient: Taylor King

The Whip Mix Corporation 2021 Hanau “Best of the Best” Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has excelled in the study and clinical application of Prosthodontics.

Recipient: Rachel Jackson

The Ewell-Neil Graduate Research Award

This award recognizes the graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in dental research.

Recipients: Christopher Coke

The National Dental Association

This award recognizes all graduating dental students for outstanding achievement in participation in organized dentistry of the Student National Dental Association and provides a pin and membership to the National Dental Association.

Recipients: All graduating senior dental students

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE PROGRAM

*The following School of Medicine graduates were elected to membership as
Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Scholars*

Adetayo Abdulrazak	Andrew Grush	Mike Romain
Brandon Anamah	Dorian Hill	Leilani Roberson
Jasmine Blair	Kelsey Henderson	Nicholas Sbravati
Maya Bragg	Joshua Ivare	Laurie Temiz
Tonuka Chatterjee	Idris Kosoko	Portia Thomas
Chasity Greene	Siddharth Patel	Diborah Yimer

The following School of Medicine candidates qualify for graduation with

High Honors

Benjamin A. Aiken	Tonuka Chatterjee	Maylander Menard	Nicholas M. Sbravati
Adetayo Abdulrazak	Daniel N. Gilani	Ajia J. Murphy	Mary Skrabut
Brandon C. Anamah	Chastity R. Green	Andrew Nakla	Jeffrey S. Stokes
Nimay Anand	Dorian S. Hill	Siddharth A. Patel	Portia L. Thomas
Jasmine L. Blair	Joshua Ivare	Jennifer Reskallah	Diborah M. Yimer
Maya A. Bragg	Mirjana G. Ivanic	Kacy S. Roberson	
Geetha M. Cawthon	Idris O. Kosoko	Mike Romain	
Matthew R. Chandler	Reethika G. Maddineni	Myla A. Sapp	

Honors

Joseph O. Abiade	Asha C. Cotterell	Geryn T. Hasty Peggins	Zahria A. Radford
Autumn A. Acklin	Christopher B. Creighton	Jessica Hawkins	Allison B. Randolph
Tanisha N. Adams	Montrell U. Curvey	Kelsey D. Henderson	Leilani Roberson
Oluwatobi Alawode	Brittney N. Dike	Terry A. Henry	Shantal P. Salandy
Oladipupo O Anibire	Taylor W. Dykes	Genesis A. James	Kemar N. Small
Krystal L. Aris	Micah G. Ernst	Oyinloye A. Jose	Stephanie Smith
Kezia Asiedu	Aliah L. Fonteh	Muhammad Saad Khan	Walberto Tejada
Iman Barre	Mika V. Galiher	Kristin C. Malone	Menjivar
Rocio D. Bermudez	Yomiyoun Geleta	Maurice D. Morgan	Kaelan G. Temple
Jennifer Black	Timothy L. Gibbs	Jamal E. Moss	Nicholas P. Valle
David J. Bowen	Gorav Gupta	Kristian U. Onwuharonye	Ilija Zecevic
William A. Breau	Robert G. Hammond	Chezyln D. Patton	
Rachel E. Cheek	Oyindayo M. Hassan	Chelsie E. Poindexter	

The Student with the Highest Grade Point Average in the M.D. Program

The recipient of this award is a senior medical student who has achieved the highest Grade Point Average in the School of Medicine.

Recipient: Laura Temiz

The Dr. Dorothy Lavinia Brown Award

This award is presented by the Nashville Academy of Medicine in recognition of the service and contribution of Dorothy Lavinia Brown, M.D., as a member of the Academy and a leading physician and teacher of physicians. It also honors the quality of medical leadership in Nashville and the commitment to partner with physicians of the future. As Dr. Brown taught at Meharry Medical College, this award is given to a graduating medical student from Meharry in her memory. For achievement in education, leadership, and civic involvement, the Dorothy Lavinia Brown Award is presented to the graduating medical student who has an understanding and appreciation for such endeavors, and who demonstrates exemplary character and leadership.

Recipient: Terry Henry

The Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians Award

The recipient of this award is a senior medical student chosen by the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, who has exemplified academic excellence and plans to pursue a career in Family Medicine.

Recipient: Jamal Moss

The E. Perry Crump, M.D. Award in Pediatrics

This award is presented to the fourth-year graduating medical student who exemplified the highest qualities of scholarship, aptitude and proficiency in the pursuit of excellence in the study of pediatrics.

Recipient: Stephanie Smith

The Lloyd C. Elam, M.D. Professionalism Award

This award was established by the faculty of the School of Medicine to recognize two senior medical students (one male and one female) who, throughout their matriculation, exemplified the characteristics of scholarship, integrity, professionalism, high moral standards and humanism in the delivery of health care.

Recipients: Maurice Morgan, Mika Galiher

The G.P.A. Forde Award

This award, established by the Bolden family, is given to encourage proficiency and excellence in internal medicine and is presented to the senior medical student who, in the opinion of his/her mentors, exhibited the highest potential as a diagnostician.

Recipient: Joshua Ivare

The Rafael Hernandez, M.D. Award in Psychiatry

This award was established by the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences to pay tribute to a distinguished pioneer in the field and to promote student interest and proficiency in psychiatry. A monetary award and a certificate of merit are awarded to the senior student who demonstrated excellence in clinical psychiatry and/or research related to the field.

Recipient: Kardeem Joseph

The Randle E. Pollard, M.D. Award for Excellence in Urology

This award was established by Randle E. Pollard, M.D., Class of 1951, and is presented to the most outstanding student in urology. The 2023 award is presented to a student pursuing a General Surgery residency program.

Recipient: Geetha Mariah Cawthon

The Nelson H. Stringer Jr., M.D. '73 Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology Award

This award is given to a graduating student who intends to pursue a career in obstetrics and gynecology and has demonstrated academic excellence as determined by the Office of Student and Academic Affairs. The award is named in honor of Dr. Nelson H. Stringer, Jr., a 1973 graduate of Meharry Medical College and obstetrician/gynecologist who practiced in Chicago, Illinois.

Recipient: Maya Bragg

The Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

This award is presented to the senior medical student who best demonstrates the Foundation's ideals of outstanding compassion in the delivery of care, respect for patients, their families, and health care colleagues, as well as demonstrated clinical excellence.

Recipient: Kemar Small

The Charlotte R. Walker, M.D. Surgical Award

This award was established by the family of the late Charlotte Rose Walker, M.D. '64 and the Matthew Walker Surgical Society. The award is given to an outstanding graduating senior medical student who is planning a career in surgery or the surgical subspecialties. This student exemplifies the prevailing characteristics of Dr. Walker: compassion, integrity, humility and excellence.

Recipient: Kelsey Henderson

The Matthew Walker Surgical Society Award

This award, established by the Matthew Walker Surgical Society, recognizes students who demonstrated excellence in surgery and compassion for the underserved

Recipient: Dorian Hill

The Gladys M. Williams, M.D. Award

This award is presented to a senior medical student who demonstrated the best clinical judgment in the management of difficult clinical cases as determined by the teaching faculty.

Recipient: Krystal Aris

GENERAL COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

The Department of Family and Community Medicine Merit Award

The recipient of this award is a fourth-year medical student, in good standing at Meharry Medical College, who matched in a Family Medicine Residency position. The student should exhibit great leadership ability and be committed to family and community health care.

Recipient: Jamal Moss

The Hinds-Hawthorne Award

This award is given to graduating medical students who have expressed a strong interest in the study of cardiovascular diseases. The award is named in honor of Edmund S. and Ruby L. Hinds, who suffered the ravages of cardiovascular renal disease and Edward William Hawthorne, M.D., Ph.D., a leading medical scientist whose work was pivotal in the understanding of modern cardiovascular and kidney diseases in man. In honor of his parents and mentor, this award was established by the late Joseph E. Hinds, M.D., Ph.D., FACC, who was the Director of Clinical Research and former Chair in the Department of Internal Medicine at Meharry Medical College.

Recipient: Trevor Thompson

The L.T. Miller Award

This award is presented to the senior medical student(s) who best exemplified the goals and mission of Meharry Medical College over the entire four years of study.

Recipients: Oladipupo Anibire, Ajia Murphy

The National Medical Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology Section Scholarship Award

This award is given annually to a deserving minority medical student from Howard, Meharry, Drew, and Morehouse by the NMA, based on selection criteria developed by the local departmental faculty. This scholarship is presented each year at the clinical meeting of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).

Recipient: Jasmine Blair

The Elva M. Risby Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Elva M. Risby, who was employed at Meharry Medical College for 26 years, having spent 12 years of her employment as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in the School of Medicine. The award is presented for the purpose of assisting the recipient in relocation as they prepare for residency training.

Recipient: Asha Cotterell

DR. HENRY A. MOSES

SENIOR STUDENT TRANSITION AWARDS

School of Dentistry

Selome Abera
Nadia Blake
Oscar Carter
Edward Clemons III
Yemesrach Demissie

Larimer Gonzalez
Adrienne Hoffman
Paris Jarman
Taylor King
Adem Mahmud

Fransisca Meralus
CyVanie Ramkelawan
Payton Richardson
Antonio Roberts
Gamaelle Tellus

Ashley White
Shanelia Williams
Khori-Ann Willis

School of Medicine

Autumn A. Acklin
Tanisha N. Adams
Oluwatoyin T. Akinnusotu
Brandon C. Anamah
Oladipupo O. Anibire
Krystal L. Aris
Kezia Asiedu
Rocio D. Bermudez
Jasmine L. Blair

William A. Breau
Rachael E. Cheek
Asha C. Cotterell
Christopher B. Creighton
Montrell U. Curvey
Brittney N. Dike
Timothy L. Gibbs
Oyindayo M. Hassan
Geryn T. Hasty Peggins

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Terry A. Henry
Erika S. Johnson
Oyinloye A. Jose
Benson Joseph
Kardeem S. Joseph
Maylander Menard
Maurice D. Morgan
Jamal E. Moss

Ajia J. Murphy
Chezlyn D. Patton
Allison B. Randolph V
Jennifer Reskallah
Leilani Roberson
Kemar N. Small
Stephanie Smith
Walberto Tejada-Menjivar
Portia L. Thomas

THE ALUMNI OATH



I, having been given the opportunity to enter the health sciences as a provider and/or researcher, do hereby pledge to give my support to Meharry Medical College and The Meharry National Alumni Association, Inc. I will encourage gifted, mission oriented students to consider Meharry as the institution for study in the health sciences. I will network with my fellow Meharrrians. I will give generously of my finances to the extent that I am able to do so. I will always conduct myself in a manner to make my alma mater, Meharry Medical College, proud.

ALUMNI RECOGNITION

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 Wendell Roosevelt McMillan, MT
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THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

WORDS AND MUSIC BY FRANCIS SCOTT KEY, 1814

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

ALMA MATER

WORDS BY EMERY L. RANN, M.D. '48

MUSIC BY THEODORE STENT, M.D. '48

Steadfast and strong
Majestic in thy might
Shining in glory
From her lofty height.
Our Alma Mater
Wreathed in beauty stands,
Guiding our lives
Our rev'rence she commands.

Help us who strive
In serving mankind's needs;
To share thy love
In doing noble deeds.
With grateful praise and lasting faithfulness,
O, Meharry, guide us
In our quest.

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

WORDS BY JAMES W. JOHNSON, 1899

MUSIC BY JOHN R. JOHNSON, 1899

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the
dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun, of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with
tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through
the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou Who hast by Thy might, let us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our
God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of
the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.



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